From: Taucher_M@cde.state.co.us
To: McCaslin_H@cde.state.co.us
Subject: RE: CPP Class and Ratio - DPS Strike and DHS Emergency Waiver situation
Date: Monday, February 11, 2019 12:41:42 PM
Attachments: image8ac00a.PNG
imageabaa3a.PNG
image7707c2.PNG
imageed6d7e.PNG
image38df89.PNG
image868ff2.PNG
imageecb0b4.PNG
image71892d.PNG
image5f552c.PNG
image4bd3b2.PNG

Thank you for the information Heidi. First, I do understand that this is a unique situation and people are working to meet the needs of thousands of displaced children and families. I do however get concerned about this message. For many years and still to this day, we have to remind districts that they need to keep space available for children who qualify for special education, specifically in the spring. When the message is- there will be no negative action taken for short term violation, will programs translate this to other situations as well? I worry about it becoming a mixed message. I realize we are not advertising this, but information like this does get shared across the field. Also I am not sure we will get much information from DHS that will be helpful. Most programs are licensed for their square footage and not for CPP requirements-,meaning they are licensed for 20 because of their square footage, but keep a group size of 16 for CPP. They won't have to get an emergency waiver from DHS unless they were wanting to go over the 20 (or whatever their current capacity is).

These are just my thoughts that I wanted to share and happy to talk more with the group tomorrow.

Thank you,

Missy

Melissa Taucher
CPP Regional Support Specialist
Preschool through 3rd Grade (P-3) Office

COLORADO
Department of Education

P 720.822.6239
201 East Colfax Avenue, Room 105, Denver, CO 80203
Taucher_M@cde.state.co.us | www.cde.state.co.us

Email cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. Therefore, email cannot be used to transfer files containing personally identifiable information of educators or students. Contact the intended recipient to mutually determine enhanced security options for transferring such information.

From: McCaslin, Heidi
Sent: Monday, February 11, 2019 9:53 AM
To: PreSchool_Unit
Subject: CPP Class and Ratio - DPS Strike and DHS Emergency Waiver situation

Good morning,

Some of you are aware that we were working to determine how we might respond to the fact that in support of program's dealing with the repercussions of the DPS strike, DHS put out an emergency child care waiver request option to exceed class size and ratio requirements in the DHS child care licensing rules. Last Friday there was a flurry of communication on this, including Melissa speaking with Katy and also getting an opinion from the AG's office. In addition to our usual stance that CDE staff cannot waive state statute, we learned that in emergent situations like the one DPS is currently facing, and for a brief and temporary time period, CDE would not be in a position to take negative action for non-compliance should the district, or their partner programs, choose to exceed the maximum group size limit or staff ratios. We will talk more about this at tomorrow's CPP sub-team meeting.

This is not something we plan to proactively communicate, but can share with programs/districts if they inquire directly in response to the DPS situation. Additionally, Floyd reached out to DHS to ask for involvement in waiver review and approval or at least notification of which programs are requesting this so that we would have more knowledge of if/when programs may be exceeding the 16 maximum class size. This is delicate because we don't want to suggest program's violate state law, but violations of this would have to be severe and long lasting for us to be able to take action to remove funding or preschool positions.

Let me know your questions so that we can be united and consistent about how and when we share this information.

Best,
Heidi

Heidi McCaslin
Preschool Director
Preschool through 3rd Grade (P-3) Office

COLORADO
Department of Education

P 303.866.6720
201 E Colfax Ave, Room 105, Denver, CO 80203
McCaslin_H@cde.state.co.us | www.cde.state.co.us

Email cannot be guaranteed to be secure or error-free as information could be intercepted, corrupted, lost, destroyed, arrive late or incomplete, or contain viruses. Therefore, email cannot be used to transfer files containing personally identifiable information of educators or students. Contact the intended recipient to mutually determine enhanced security options for transferring such information.